

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL MEMORANDUM**

**HB 2016 – SB 1994**

March 19, 2018

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Requires the weighted caseload formula devised by the Comptroller of the Treasury (COT) to be provided to the General Assembly no later than January 1 of each year.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (015674):** Adds language to the original bill to create an additional trial court in the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. Requires the governor to appoint a person to serve as judge or chancellor of the new court effective September 1, 2018, until September 1, 2020, or until the person's successor is elected or qualified. Requires qualified voters of the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District to elect an additional judge at the August 2020 election to serve until September 1, 2022, and be elected every eight years thereafter.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Increase State Expenditures – \$249,600/FY18-19  
\$269,800/FY19-20 and Subsequent Years**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

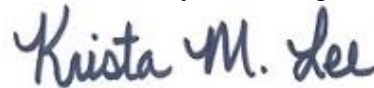
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 16-2-513(a), the COT is required to devise and maintain a weighted caseload formula for the purpose of determining the need for creation or reallocation of judicial positions using case weights derived from the most recent weighted caseload study.
- Based on information provided by COT, any impact to COT resulting from providing the information by January 1 of each year is estimated to be not significant.
- The provisions of this legislation will result in the appointment of one judge or chancellor to the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District.
- This legislation has a September 1, 2018 effective date, which is approximately 83.3 percent of the fiscal year.

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- The increase in state expenditures associated with the judge position is estimated to be \$180,055 in FY18-19 [(\$172,740 salary + \$35,913 benefits + \$2,000 communication + \$500 supplies + \$3,000 legal subscriptions + \$2,000 travel) x 83.3%] and \$216,153 (\$172,740 salary + \$35,913 benefits + \$2,000 communication + \$500 supplies + \$3,000 legal subscriptions + \$2,000 travel) in FY19-20 and subsequent fiscal years.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 16-2-505(c), upon the election of a judicial district judge, a secretary position is created for that judge. This analysis assumes the secretary will be hired upon the appointment of the judge by the Governor.
- The increase in state expenditures associated with the secretary position is estimated to be \$44,697 [(\$39,800 salary + \$13,858 benefits) x 83.3%] in FY18-19 and \$53,658 (\$39,800 salary + \$13,858 benefits) in FY19-20 and subsequent fiscal years.
- The one-time increase in state expenditures associated with the additional positions is estimated to be \$24,800 (\$8,000 computer costs + \$16,800 office furniture).
- The cumulative increase in state expenditures associated with the additional positions in FY18-19 is estimated to be \$249,552 (\$180,055 + \$44,697 + \$24,800).
- The cumulative increase in state expenditures in FY19-20 and subsequent fiscal years is estimated to be \$269,811 (\$216,153 + \$53,658).
- Division judge elections will be held during regularly-scheduled general elections; therefore, any impact to local government is estimated to be not significant.

## **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/amj